761551N52A – SH-AD (3/16)

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

"A Tradition of Service Since 1850"

OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

DATE: September 8, 2017
FILE:

FROM: ALICIA E. AULT, COMMANDER
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND TRAINING DIVISION

TO: JAMES D.TATREAU, CAPTAIN
NORWALK STATION

SUBJECT: EXECUTIVE FORCE REVIEW COMMITTEE FINDINGS

Case Number:	SH2413839
Incident:	Non Hit Shooting
Incident Date:	October 7, 2016
Unit:	Norwalk Station
Suspect(s):	Gomez, Alejandro MH/080792
Involved Employees:	Deputy David Pantoja #[redacted]
EFRC Date:	September 7, 2017

The Executive Force Review Committee (EFRC) consisting of Commanders Alicia E. Ault, Darrell B. Bolin, and Allen M. Castellano met and reviewed the above case.

FINDINGS:

The EFRC determined the use of force and tactics were both within Department policy.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The EFRC made no recommendations.

AEA:TLB:tlb

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

Officer Involved Shooting

Report Date:	Bureau/Station/Facility:	Admin. Invest.?	Hit?
08/28/2017	Norwalk Sheriff's Station	☑	☐

Incident Information

URN:	Date:	Time:
016-14111-0451-055	10/07/2016	0920

City or Station: Norwalk

Location: 10600 Firestone Boulevard, Norwalk

Nature of Incident: Several deputies contained a 417 suspect. The suspect turned towards deputies with the gun in his right hand. One deputy fired four rounds, missing the suspect. The suspect shot himself.

Location Type (*check one or more*):
- ☐ Backyard
- ☐ Beach
- ☑ Business
- ☐ Freeway
- ☐ Industrial
- ☐ Park
- ☑ Parking Lot
- ☐ Residence
- ☐ Rural
- ☐ School
- ☐ Street
- Other:

Lighting (*check only one*):
- ☐ Darkness
- ☑ Daylight
- ☐ Other
- ☐ Street Lights

Weather (*circle only one*):
- ☑ Clear
- ☐ Cloudy
- ☐ Fog
- ☐ Rain

Distance:

Incident Type (*check one or more*):
- ☐ Accidental
- ☑ Armed Person
- ☑ Fleeing Suspect
- ☐ Foot Pursuit
- ☐ Gun Take Away
- ☐ Moving Vehicle
- ☐ Sniper/Ambush
- ☐ Startle
- ☐ Struggle Involved
- ☐ Traffic Stop
- ☐ Unarmed Person
- ☐ Unintentional
- ☐ Vehicle Pursuit
- ☐ Warrant Service
- ☐ Warning Shot
- Other:

Initiated by (*check only one*):
- ☐ Arrest Warrant
- ☑ Call
- ☐ Observation
- ☐ One Person Unit
- ☐ Other
- ☐ Search Warrant
- ☐ Two Person Unit

Prior Activity (*check only one*):
- ☐ Detective
- ☐ Inmate Transport
- ☐ Other
- ☑ Routine Patrol

Total # of Shots Fired by Deputy	Total # of Shots Fired by Suspect	Aero Unit?	Canine Unit?
4	1	☑	☐

Employee Witnesses

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.	ShiftTime (*check only one*)	ShiftType (*check only one*)
[redacted]	Alatorre	Alonso	nmn	☐ EM ☐ PM ☑ Day	☑ Regular ☐ Overtime ☐ Off Duty
[redacted]	Pagodayev	Dennis	nmn	☐ EM ☐ PM ☑ Day	☑ Regular ☐ Overtime ☐ Off Duty
[redacted]	Becerra	Israel	B.	☐ EM ☐ PM ☑ Day	☑ Regular ☐ Overtime ☐ Off Duty

Non-Employee Witnesses

Last Name	First Name	M.I.	Street Address	City	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
[redacted]	[redacted]		[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	
[redacted]	[redacted]		[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]		[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]		[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]		[redacted]

Supervisors

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.	(*check one or more*)
[redacted]	Fernandez	Anthony		☑ On Duty ☐ Present during shooting ☐ Witness to shooting ☐ Involved in shooting
				☐ On Duty ☐ Present during shooting ☐ Witness to shooting ☐ Involved in shooting

Watch Sergeant

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.
[redacted]	Arnold	Gregory	A.

Watch Commander

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]

PSTD Use Only

SH # ______________

SH-R-438A (rev. 10/01/15)

See Reverse

Officer Involved Shooting

RN: 016-14111-0451-055

Rollout Information

Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Date Submitted	Date of Recommendation
10/07/2016	1100	08/28/2017	

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.
[redacted]	Arballo	Carmen	A.
[redacted]	Jordan	James	T.
[redacted]	Diez	Justin	R.

Shooting / Force Information

Method

(AW) Arwen
(BC) Baton:(Control)
(BI) Baton:(Impact)
(BF) Bodily Fluids
(CN) Canine
(CR) Carotid Restraint
(CH) Choke Hold
(CT) Control Holds:(Control Techniques)
(TT) Control Holds:(Team Takedown)
(TD) Control Holds:(Takedown)
(CE) Chemical
(OC) Chemical Agents (OC Spray)
(TG) Chemical Agents (Tear Gas)
(EX) Explosives
(FH) Firearm (Handgun)
(FR) Firearm (Rifle)
(FS) Firearm (Shotgun)
(FO) Firearm (Other)
(FB) Flashbang
(FL) Flashlight
(OE) Other Weapon: Edged
(OV) Other Weapon: Vehicle
(OB) Other Weapon: Blunt Object
(OO) Other Weapon: Other
(PK) Personal Weapon: Feet/Leg: (Kick)
(PS) Personal Weapon: Feet/Leg: (Sweep)
(PH) Personal Weapon (Hand/Arm)
(PP) Personal Weapon (Push)
(PO) Personal Weapon (Other)
(RS) Resistance
(CN) Restraint Device (Capture Net)
(RH) Restraint Device (Handcuffs)
(HB) Restraint Device:Hobble (Legs Only)
(TP) Restraint Device:Hobble (TARP)
(RE) Restraint Device: REACT Belt
(SP) Sap
(SH) Shield
(SG) 37mm Stinger
(SB) Sting Ball
(ST) Stun Bag
(TR) Taser
(UC) Uncooperative

Type of Injury

(AB) Abrasion
(BR) Bruise
(BU) Burn
(CP) Complaint of Pain
(CO) Concussion
(DH) Death
(DI) Dislocation
(DB) Dog Bite
(FR) Fractures
(GS) Gunshot
(HB) Human Bite
(LC) Lacerations
(ND) Nerve Damage
(OD) Organ Damage
(PA) Paralysis
(PW) Puncture Wound
(SD) Soft Tissue Damage
(ST) Sprain/Twists
(UN) Unconscious
(RM) Refused Med Treatment
(NN) NONE

Body Part Injured

(AD) Abdomen
(AK) Ankle
(AR) Arm
(BK) Back
(BT) Buttocks
(CH) Chest
(EL) Elbow
(FA) Face
(FE) Feet
(FI) Fingers
(GE) Genitals
(GR) Groin
(HD) Hand
(HE) Head
(HI) Hip
(IN) Internal
(KN) Knees
(LE) Leg
(NK) Neck
(SH) Shoulder
(WR) Wrist

Brand

(AK) AK-47
(BN) Benelli
(BR) Beretta
(BW) Browning
(CH) Charter Arms
(CO) Colt
(DA) Davis Industries
(GL) Glock
(HA) Harrington & Richardson
(HI) Hi Standard
(HK) H & K
(IT) Ithica
(IV) Iver Johnson
(JE) Jennings
(LO) Lorcin
(LU) Luger
(MA) Marlin
(MO) Mossberg
(NC) NCI aka SKS
(NA) North American
(NO) Norinco
(RA) Raven
(RM) Remington
(RG) RG
(RI) RGI
(RO) Rossi
(SW) Smith & Wesson
(SR) Sturm Ruger
(SS) SIG Sauer
(ST) Sterling
(TA) Taurus
(WE) Weatherby
(WN) Winchester
(US) US Government
(YY) Handmade (Inmate)
(XX) Homemade (Non-Inmate)
(ZZ) Other Brand

Caliber

(9) 9 mm
(10) 10 mm
(12) 12 guage
(20) 20 guage
(21) .22-250
(22) .22 caliber
(23) .223 caliber
(24) .243 caliber
(25) .25 caliber
(30) .308 caliber
(35) .357 caliber
(36) 30-60 caliber
(38) .38 caliber
(40) .40 caliber
(41) .410 guage
(44) .44 caliber
(45) .45 caliber
(50) 50 mm
(SL) Slug
(WW) Other caliber

FORCE APPLIED *(one code per block)*

Used By (E# or S#)	Used Against (E# or S#)	Method (Code)	Brand (Code)	Caliber (Code)	Authorized Weapon? (Y/N)	Authorized Ammunition? (Y/N)	Type of Injury (Code)	Body Part (Code)
Pantoja	Gomez	FH	BR	9	Y	Y	NN	None
Pantoja	Gomez	FH	BR	9	Y	Y	NN	None
Pantoja	Gomez	FH	BR	9	Y	Y	NN	None
Pantoja	Gomez	FH	BR	9	Y	Y	NN	None

Officer Involved Shooting
Involved Employee Information

URN: 016-14111-0451-055

Involved Employee

E 1

Employee # [redacted]	Last Name: Pantoja	First Name: David	M.I.: C.
Sex: M Race: H	Rank: Deputy	Unit Assignment: Norwalk	Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.): 45K1
ShiftTime (*circle only one*): ☐ EM ☐ PM ☑ Day	ShiftType (*circle only one*): ☑ Regular ☐ Overtime ☐ Off Duty	Intoxication/Drug Usage? ☐	Substance Used:
Hospital Admission? ☐	Hospital Name:	Coroner Case? ☐	Coroner Case # / Interviewed? ☑
Hrs of sleep prior to shooting:	Duty Time (hrs): 0920 hours	Clothing (*circle only one*): ☐ Plain Clothes no Vest ☐ Plain Clothes w/ Vest ☐ Raid Jacket no Vest ☐ Raid Jacket w/ Vest ☐ Uniform no Vest ☑ Uniform w/ Vest	Other Factors:
Age: [redacted] Height:	Weight:		
Range Qualification Date: [redacted]	PPC Qualification Date: [redacted]	Laser Training Date: [redacted]	
Certified with Weapon Used? [redacted]	Patrol Certification? [redacted]	Certification Unit: [redacted] / Prior Shootings? [redacted]	Number of Prior Shootings: [redacted] / Directed Force: [redacted]
Weapons Fired Brand: Baretta	Caliber: 9mm # Shots: 4	Weapons Fired Brand:	Caliber: # Shots:
Field Training Officer Emp # [redacted]	Last Name [redacted]	First Name [redacted]	M.I. [redacted]
Field Training Officer Emp # [redacted]	Last Name [redacted]	First Name [redacted]	M.I. [redacted]

E__

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Sex: Race:	Rank:	Unit Assignment:	Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.):
ShiftTime (*circle only one*): ☐ EM ☐ PM ☐ Day	ShiftType (*circle only one*): ☐ Regular ☐ Overtime ☐ Off Duty	Intoxication/Drug Usage? ☐	Substance Used:
Hospital Admission? ☐	Hospital Name:	Coroner Case? ☐	Coroner Case # / Interviewed? ☐
Hrs of sleep prior to shooting:	Duty Time (hrs):	Clothing (*circle only one*): ☐ Plain Clothes no Vest ☐ Plain Clothes w/ Vest ☐ Raid Jacket no Vest ☐ Raid Jacket w/ Vest ☐ Uniform no Vest ☐ Uniform w/ Vest	Other Factors:
Age: Height:	Weight:		
Range Qualification Date:	PPC Qualification Date:	Laser Training Date:	
Certified with Weapon Used? ☐	Patrol Certification? ☐	Certification Unit: / Prior Shootings? ☐	Number of Prior Shootings: / Directed Force: ☐
Weapons Fired Brand:	Caliber: # Shots:	Weapons Fired Brand:	Caliber: # Shots:
Field Training Officer Emp #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Field Training Officer Emp #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.

E__

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Sex: Race:	Rank:	Unit Assignment:	Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.):
ShiftTime (*circle only one*): ☐ EM ☐ PM ☐ Day	ShiftType (*circle only one*): ☐ Regular ☐ Overtime ☐ Off Duty	Intoxication/Drug Usage? ☐	Substance Used:
Hospital Admission? ☐	Hospital Name:	Coroner Case? ☐	Coroner Case # / Interviewed? ☐
Hrs of sleep prior to shooting:	Duty Time (hrs):	Clothing (*circle only one*): ☐ Plain Clothes no Vest ☐ Plain Clothes w/ Vest ☐ Raid Jacket no Vest ☐ Raid Jacket w/ Vest ☐ Uniform no Vest ☐ Uniform w/ Vest	Other Factors:
Age: Height:	Weight:		
Range Qualification Date:	PPC Qualification Date:	Laser Training Date:	
Certified with Weapon Used? ☐	Patrol Certification? ☐	Certification Unit: / Prior Shootings? ☐	Number of Prior Shootings: / Directed Force: ☐
Weapons Fired Brand:	Caliber: # Shots:	Weapons Fired Brand:	Caliber: # Shots:
Field Training Officer Emp #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.
Field Training Officer Emp #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.

Officer Involved Shooting
Suspect Information

URN: 016-14111-0451-055

Suspect Information

S 1

Last Name: Gomez		First Name: Alejandro	M.I.
AKA Last Name		First Name	M.I.
Sex: M Race: Hispanic	Street Address: [redacted]	City [redacted]	State & Zip Code: [redacted]
Work Phone: [redacted]	Home Phone: [redacted]	Social Security #: [redacted]	Driver's License #: [redacted]
Age: 24 D.O.B. 08/07/1992	Height: 507 Weight: 163	FBI # [redacted]	CII # [redacted]
Booking #	Primary Charge:	Secondary Charge:	
Coroner Case? ☑	Coroner Case # 2015-01832	Intoxication/Drug Usage? ☑	Substance Used:
Armed? ☑	Apprehended? ☐	Mental Illness? ☐	Criminal History? [redacted]
Vehicle Make Model:	Year: Parole: [redacted]	Probation: [redacted]	Prior Felony Conviction: [redacted]

S

Last Name		First Name	M.I.
AKA Last Name		First Name	M.I.
Sex: Race:	Street Address:	City	State & Zip Code:
Work Phone:	Home Phone:	Social Security #:	Driver's License #:
Age: D.O.B.	Height: Weight:	FBI #	CII #
Booking #	Primary Charge:	Secondary Charge:	
Coroner Case? ☐	Coroner Case #	Intoxication/Drug Usage? ☐	Substance Used:
Armed? ☐	Apprehended? ☐	Mental Illness? ☐	Criminal History? ☐
Vehicle Make Model:	Year: Parole:	Probation:	Prior Felony Conviction:

S

Last Name		First Name	M.I.
AKA Last Name		First Name	M.I.
Sex: Race:	Street Address:	City	State & Zip Code:
Work Phone:	Home Phone:	Social Security #:	Driver's License #:
Age: D.O.B.	Height: Weight:	FBI #	CII #
Booking #	Primary Charge:	Secondary Charge:	
Coroner Case? ☐	Coroner Case #	Intoxication/Drug Usage? ☐	Substance Used:
Armed? ☐	Apprehended? ☐	Mental Illness? ☐	Criminal History? ☐
Vehicle Make Model:	Year: Parole:	Probation:	Prior Felony Conviction:

S

Last Name		First Name	M.I.
AKA Last Name		First Name	M.I.
Sex: Race:	Street Address:	City	State & Zip Code:
Work Phone:	Home Phone:	Social Security #:	Driver's License #:
Age: D.O.B.	Height: Weight:	FBI #	CII #
Booking #	Primary Charge:	Secondary Charge:	
Coroner Case? ☐	Coroner Case #	Intoxication/Drug Usage? ☐	Substance Used:
Armed? ☐	Apprehended? ☐	Mental Illness? ☐	Criminal History? ☐
Vehicle Make Model:	Year: Parole:	Probation:	Prior Felony Conviction:

SUPPLEMENTAL NON-EMPLOYEE WITNESSES
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

Non-Employee Witnesses

Last Name [redacted]	First Name [redacted]		M.I.
Street Address [redacted]	Zip Code [redacted]	Work Ph	Home Ph [redacted]
Last Name [redacted]	First Name [redacted]		M.I.
Street Address [redacted]	Zip Code [redacted]	Work Ph	Home Ph [redacted]
Last Name	First Name		M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
Last Name	First Name		M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
Last Name	First Name		M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
Last Name	First Name		M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
Last Name	First Name		M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
Last Name	First Name		M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
Last Name	First Name		M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
Last Name	First Name		M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
Last Name	First Name		M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
Last Name	First Name		M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
Last Name	First Name		M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
Last Name	First Name		M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
Last Name	First Name		M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
Last Name	First Name		M.I.
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph

SUPPLEMENTAL EMPLOYEE WITNESSES
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

Employee Witnesses

Last Name	First Name	M.I.	Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
Weinreb	Micah	# [redacted]	12335 Civic Center Drive, Norwalk	90650	(562) 863-7811	
	Alonzo					

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY

INCIDENT: **On-Duty Non-Hit Shooting, Suspect Deceased**

IAB FILE NUMBER: **SH 2413839**

URN#: **016-14111-0451-451**

DATE/TIME: **October 7, 2016, 0907 Hours**

LOCATION: **10600 Firestone Boulevard, Norwalk**

SYNOPSIS:

On October 7, 2016, an Internal Affairs Bureau (IAB) team comprised of Lieutenant Justin Diez, #[redacted] Sergeant Carmen Arballo, #[redacted] and Sergeant James Jordan, #[redacted] responded to Norwalk Station regarding and on-duty, non-hit shooting. The incident concluded with the suicide death of Suspect Alejandro Gomez.

IAB Lieutenant Diez confirmed the on-duty watch commander, Lieutenant [redacted] #[redacted] took reasonable steps to ensure involved and witness personnel did not discuss the incident among themselves or with uninvolved persons prior to being interviewed by the assigned investigators. In addition, IAB Lieutenant Diez confirmed the involved personnel gathered in the company of a supervisor until they provided a statement to the assigned investigators.

Detectives Chaffey Shepherd, #[redacted] and Jonas Shipe, #[redacted] from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Homicide Bureau, arrived and assumed control of the investigation. For further information regarding the Homicide investigation refer to Homicide supplemental reports, under URN #016-14111-0451-451 **[Exhibit A].**

On October 7, 2016, at approximately 0859 hours, Unit 43K3, Deputy Dennis Weinreb, #[redacted] was dispatched to 10600 Firestone Boulevard, in the city of Norwalk, regarding a person with a gun (Suspect Alejandro Gomez). The call stated a male, Hispanic, adult, at the 605 freeway off ramp, waved a firearm at cars that exited the freeway. Deputy Weinreb requested all responding units to switch to L-Tac and meet east of the 605 freeway and Firestone Boulevard.

IAB Note: **Deputy Weinreb requested all units to meet at Firestone Boulevard, east of the 605 freeway. The address to the location**

is 10850 Firestone Boulevard, McKenna Motors dealership parking lot.

While responding to the location, an update was received from the Norwalk Station dispatch informing units a second call for service was received regarding Suspect Gomez. Suspect Gomez was seen in the Starbuck's parking lot attempting to break into parked cars.

IAB Note: **Starbucks is located at 10716 Firestone Boulevard east of the Target store. Both businesses share a large parking lot and are located approximately 175 yards apart.**

At the same time, Aero arrived overhead and spotted Suspect Gomez walking southbound in the parking lot, near Firestone Boulevard. Approximately four minutes after the call was dispatched from Sheriff's Communication Center (SCC), Deputy Weinreb, Deputy Israel Becerra , #[redacted] (43T1), Deputy Alonzo Alatorre, #[redacted] (45T1), Deputy David Pantoja, #[redacted] (45K1), and Deputy Micah Pogodayev, #[redacted] (43K1), arrived at the McKenna dealership parking lot.

Simultaneously and without delay, the deputies responded to the Target parking lot and saw Suspect Gomez standing outside of the Starbucks coffee shop. Deputies Pantoja and Alatorre attempted to contact Suspect Gomez on foot. Suspect Gomez began to walk away from the deputies in a north western direction. Deputy Pantoja returned to his vehicle and Deputy Alatorre remained on foot as they followed Suspect Gomez. Deputy Weinreb maintained a visual on Suspect Gomez as he followed him on foot. Deputy Pogodayev and Deputy Becerra drove back to the parking lot entrance and onto Firestone Boulevard.

Suspect Gomez ran west on Firestone Boulevard, crossed the east bound lanes, and onto the south curb sidewalk. Deputy Pantoja drove his patrol vehicle west bound, conducted a U-turn, and attempted to cut-off Suspect Gomez. Suspect Gomez ran east and around the corner of the Target store. Deputy Pantoja and Deputy Alatorre followed Suspect Gomez with their guns drawn. Suspect Gomez ran between two stucco pillars, holding a handgun in his hand. Suspect Gomez manipulated the gun and pointed it at his own head while "blading" his body toward the deputies. Deputy Pantoja feared Suspect Gomez was about to shoot at the deputies or enter the Target store and shoot other bystanders. Deputy Pantoja fired four rounds at Suspect Gomez.

Suspect Gomez was not struck by the rounds. Suspect Gomez ducked to his left and ran between several parked vehicles. Suspect Gomez continued to run south, along the back side of parked vehicles, and hid between a red truck and dark colored vehicle.

IAB Note: **There were several parked vehicles, facing west, in the parking lot on the south side of the Target store.**

Seconds later, the deputies heard a single gunshot coming from the area Suspect Gomez was last seen. Believing they were being shot at by Suspect Gomez, Deputy Pantoja and Deputy Alatorre maintained cover and broadcast that a shooting had occurred. It was later determined Suspect Gomez had sustained a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head. Suspect Gomez was transported via ambulance to Saint Francis Hospital where he succumbed to his injury.

INVOLVED EMPLOYEE AND WORK HISTORY

David Pantoja, Deputy Sheriff, #[redacted]
South Patrol Division
Norwalk Station

Date of Employment:	March 5, 2012
Date Assigned to Patrol/Norwalk Station:	August 16, 2015
Date Completed Patrol Training:	[redacted]
Prior Shooting incident(s):	[redacted]
Prior Founded Force Incidents:	[redacted]

Equipment Worn On Person

On October 7 2016, Deputy Pantoja was wearing a Class "A" uniform including a "Sam Browne" duty belt. The equipment on his duty belt included: Two sets of handcuffs, Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) spray, Smith and Wesson duty weapon (M&P, 9mm), three fully loaded magazines, handheld radio, keys, back-up firearm (.38 caliber). He did not have a Taser assigned to him. His county issued PR-24 Baton was located inside his patrol vehicle.

SUSPECT INFORMATION

Alejandro Gomez - Male, Hispanic, DOB: August 7, 1992, 5'05"/175



[redacted]

CII #[redacted], MAIN #[redacted], FBI #[redacted]

> IAB Note: **A copy of Suspect Gomez's criminal history is included in the Homicide supplemental reports [Exhibit A].**

SUSPECT'S INJURIES

Suspect Gomez sustained a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head. See Coroner's report **[Exhibit B]** and photographs **[Exhibit D].**

DEPUTY PERSONNEL INJURIES

None

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

All physical evidence was located and collected by Forensic Identification Specialist Dominique Enriquez, #[redacted] and Susannah Baker, #[redacted] from the Sheriff's Crime Lab **[Exhibit C]**.

INVESTIGATOR'S OBSERVATIONS

Internal Affairs Bureau Sergeant Arballo and Sergeant Jordan responded to the scene, on October 7, 2016, at approximately 1130 hours. Sergeant Arballo reassessed the scene on August 10, 2017.

The shooting scene was detailed by Homicide Detectives Chaffey Shepherd and Jonas Shipe in the Homicide supplemental reports. Their description of the scene was consistent with the IAB Investigator's observation. The scene was photographed and sketched by Forensic Identification Specialist Susannah E. Baker, #[redacted], from the Sheriff's Crime Lab.

Included in the IAB Case Book is a flash drive containing photographs of crime scene and Suspect Gomez **[Exhibit D].**

WEAPON USED BY DEPUTY PANTOJA

Deputy Pantoja fired four rounds of Department issued 9mm ammunition from his Smith and Wesson (M&P, 9mm, semiautomatic pistol). The firearm was examined by Senior Criminalist, Phil Teramoto, #[redacted] of the Scientific Services Firearms Identification Section and found to be functional **[Exhibit C].**

Deputy Pantoja's firearm was not submitted for latent prints, blood evidence, or DNA testing. Three expended 9mm casings were recovered at the shooting scene **[Exhibit C].**

Date last qualified: [redacted]
Date last trained with weapon:

PROPERTY DAMAGE

The following vehicles sustained minor damage caused by stray bullets **[For further details refer to Exhibit D, vehicle damage]**:

2008, Grey BMW, License #[redacted], damaged passenger side door panel, front windshield and rear passenger window.

2007, White Nissan Xtera, #[redacted], damaged passenger side view mirror, and passenger side window.

2004, Blue Volkswagen Jetta, License #[redacted] damaged right front head light.

LIGHTING AND WEATHER CONDITIONS

The incident occurred during daylight hours. The weather was clear and warm.

SURVIELLANCE VIDEO

IAB investigators reviewed the surveillance video associated with the incident. The following is brief synopsis of the Target storefront and cell phone captured videos **[Exhibit D]**:

Cell Phone Video:

01:30 duration; Suspect Gomez walked westbound on Firestone Boulevard. Suspect Gomez then walked quickly along the walkway in front of the Target store holding a gun. Deputy Pantoja fired four rounds at Suspect Gomez. Suspect Gomez then ran between two parked vehicles near the northeast corner of the Target store. Suspect Gomez went out of camera view between the parked vehicles.

Target Surveillance Camera – East (pointed North):

00:10 minutes; Suspect Gomez walked past the northeast corner of the Target store with deputies following several yards behind him. 00:25 minutes; Suspect Gomez ran between a parked red pickup truck and dark colored parked vehicle and out of view.

Target Surveillance Camera – North/East (pointed south):

01:15 minutes; Suspect Gomez ran into the parking lot. Suspect Gomez then ran southbound and concealed himself between a red pickup truck and dark colored parked vehicle. Deputies took cover behind another parked vehicle and maintained their positions until Sergeant Anthony Fernandez, #[redacted] (40Sam) arrived. 08:43 minutes Sergeant Fernandez arrived at the location.

Target Surveillance Camera – North/East (corner sidewalk):

00:32 minutes; Suspect Gomez was at the northeast corner of the Target store, walking southbound on the front walkway. Suspect Gomez held a hand gun at his waist, turned his body left, and faced the deputies. 00:40 minutes; Deputies Pantoja and Alatorre appeared from behind two stucco pillars with their weapons drawn. Deputy Pogodayev was several feet behind Deputy Alatorre.

Target Surveillance Camera – Entrance (exterior):

00:30 minutes; Deputy Becerra was in his patrol vehicle, facing a northwest direction. Deputy Becerra stepped out of the vehicle and used the doorframe as cover. 02:42

minutes; Deputies Pantoja, Alatorre, Weinreb and Pogodayev had their weapons drawn, pointed south, and maintained their positions. 07:54 minutes; Sergeant Fernandez arrived on scene.

STATEMENTS

The following narratives are intended only as a synopsis of the interviews. Additional information and precise wording may be obtained by reviewing the digitally audio recorded interviews and verbatim transcriptions.

INVOLVED EMPLOYEES

DEPUTY DAVID PANTOJA

Homicide Interview

On October 7, 2016, **Deputy David Pantoja, #[redacted],** was interviewed by Homicide Investigators Chaffey Shepherd and Jonas Shipe. The interview was audio recorded and transcribed. The following is a summary of the interview:

On October 7, 2016, Deputy Pantoja was assigned to work unit 45K1, in the city of Norwalk. He told Homicide investigators he heard a call over dispatch of a suspect (Suspect Gomez) who pointed a firearm at vehicles exiting the 605 freeway onto Firestone Boulevard. As he responded, Deputy Pantoja heard a second call dispatched that indicated Suspect Gomez was seen in the Starbucks parking lot.

Deputy Pantoja said Aero was overhead and advised, via dispatch, they had a visual on Suspect Gomez. Deputy Pantoja drove into the Target parking lot and immediately saw Suspect Gomez. Deputy Pantoja ordered Suspect Gomez to stop while he held him at gunpoint. He said Suspect Gomez walked briskly westbound toward the Target store. Deputy Pantoja told Homicide investigators he followed Suspect Gomez on foot but changed his mind and ran back to his patrol vehicle.

At this point, Deputy Pantoja saw Suspect Gomez produced a hand gun in his right hand and pointed it at his (Suspect Gomez) head. Suspect Gomez then ran west across the eastbound lanes of Firestone Boulevard. Deputy Pantoja followed Suspect Gomez, with his patrol vehicle, and drove onto Firestone Boulevard. When Suspect Gomez reached the south curb line of Firestone Boulevard, next to the Target building, Deputy Pantoja stopped his vehicle. He said he and Deputy Alatorre utilized his patrol vehicle to conceal themselves form possibly being shot at by Suspect Gomez.

When Suspect Gomez walked between two stucco pillars at the north east corner of the Target store, Deputy Pantoja saw him (Suspect Gomez) loading or clearing a jam in the gun. Deputy Pantoja believed Suspect Gomez was preparing to either shoot the deputies or other people standing nearby or inside of the store. Once Suspect Gomez passed the two pillars, he bladed his body toward Deputy Pantoja and Deputy Alatorre.

Deputy Pantoja fired four rounds at Suspect Gomez. Suspect Gomez then ran and took cover between two vehicles in the parking lot.

Seconds later, Deputy Pantoja heard one gun shot. At the same time, Deputy Pantoja thought Deputy Alatorre had been shot when he saw him fall to the ground. Deputy Pantoja said he and Deputy Alatorre immediately concealed themselves behind parked vehicles and he put out radio traffic advising that a shooting had occurred.

IAB Note: Deputy Alatorre and Deputy Pantoja followed Suspect Gomez through the parking lot. Deputy Alatorre tripped over Deputy Pantoja's foot and fell to the ground. Deputy Alatorre was not hit by gunfire [Exhibit D, video].

IAB Interview

On November 7, 2016, **Deputy David Pantoja, #[redacted]**, was interviewed by IAB Sergeants Carmen Arballo and James Jordan. The interview was audio recorded and transcribed. The following is a summary of the interview:

On the day of the incident, Deputy Pantoja was working unit 43K3, in the city of Norwalk, when he responded to a "man with a gun pointing it at vehicles" call near Firestone Boulevard and the 605 freeway. He said after briefly meeting with other responding units just east of the location, he heard an aero unit broadcast they had a visual on the suspect in front of the "Starbucks." Deputy Pantoja drove to the location and saw Suspect Gomez west of the Starbucks coffee shop. Deputy Pantoja attempted to detain Suspect Gomez and ordered him to show his hands. Suspect Gomez did not comply, and walked rapidly away from Deputy Pantoja toward Firestone Boulevard. Deputy Pantoja said he saw Suspect Gomez pull a gun from his right pocket and point it at his (Suspect Gomez) head. Deputy Pantoja followed Suspect Gomez onto Firestone Boulevard.

Deputy Pantoja said Suspect Gomez ran to the south curb line side walk, while manipulating the gun and he saw several rounds fall on the ground. Deputy Pantoja told IAB investigators Suspect Gomez then ran between two stucco pillars, on the sidewalk in front of the Target store. Deputy Pantoja walked toward the Target store and took cover at the stucco pillars. Suspect Gomez bladed his body in his (Deputy Pantoja) direction while holding the gun at chest level. Fearing Suspect Gomez was about to shoot at deputies, bystanders, or take hostages, Deputy Pantoja fired four rounds at Suspect Gomez. Suspect Gomez dodged to his left and ran south along several parked vehicles. Deputy Pantoja followed Suspect Gomez and took cover behind a parked vehicle. Suspect Gomez hid between two parked cars and Deputy Pantoja heard a single gunshot. Immediately after the gun shot, Deputy Pantoja saw Suspect Gomez fall to the ground. Deputy Pantoja maintained his position, broadcast that a shooting had occurred and requested a Shield.

DEPUTY ALONZO ALATORRE

Homicide Interview

On October 7, 2016, **Deputy Alonzo Alatorre, #[redacted]**, was interviewed by Homicide Detectives Chaffey Shepherd and Jonas Shipe. The interview was audio recorded and transcribed. The following is a brief summary of the interview:

Deputy Alatorre responded to Firestone Boulevard, east of the 605 freeway. He said when responding units arrived at the [redacted] parking lot, Aero was overhead and relayed that they had spotted the Suspect in front of Starbucks. Deputy Alatorre told IAB investigators when he arrived he saw Suspect Gomez walking westbound and pointing a gun to his (Suspect Gomez) head.

Deputy Alatorre told IAB investigators he did not chase Suspect Gomez. He said there were numerous patrol vehicles on scene and he walked from one patrol vehicle to another, as he maintained a visual on Suspect Gomez. When he arrived on Firestone Boulevard, north of the Target store, Deputy Alatorre said he saw Suspect Gomez stop on the south curb sidewalk, holding a gun. He then saw Suspect Gomez place the hand gun to his head as he walked south along the Target store's walkway.

Deputy Alatorre said he stayed behind Deputy Pantoja as they walked through the stucco pillars. He said he warned Deputy Pantoja that he was behind him to avoid a crossfire situation. It was at this time, Deputy Alatorre said he heard several gunshots but did not remember the number of shots fired. Deputy Alatorre said he saw Suspect Gomez run southbound behind parked vehicles that faced west. Suspect Gomez disappeared between two parked vehicles and seconds later Deputy Alatorre heard one gunshot coming from Suspect Gomez's direction.

Deputy Alatorre heard radio transmission stating Suspect Gomez was down on the ground and not moving. He maintained cover behind a parked vehicle, approximately thirty feet from where he last saw Suspect Gomez, and waited for Sergeant Fernandez to arrive on scene.

IAB Interview

On November 30, 2016, **Deputy Alonzo Alatorre, #[redacted]**, was interviewed by IAB Sergeants Carmen Arballo and James Jordan. The interview was audio recorded and transcribed. The following is a summary of the interview:

On the day of the incident, Deputy Alatorre was working unit 43K1, in the city of Norwalk. Deputy Alatorre told IAB investigators when he arrived on scene he immediately saw Suspect Gomez. Suspect Gomez had his hands inside his waist band. Deputy Alatorre detained Suspect Gomez at gunpoint and ordered him to show his hands. Suspect Gomez did not comply and began to walk toward Firestone Boulevard. Deputy Alatorre said he followed Suspect Gomez on foot.

When Suspect Gomez reached the center median on Firestone Boulevard, Deputy Alatorre saw him pull a hand gun from his pocket. Suspect Gomez pointed the gun to his (Suspect Gomez) head and back down to his waist. Suspect Gomez ran to the south curb line sidewalk and toward the north east corner of the Target store. Deputy Alatorre said he and Deputy Pantoja followed Suspect Gomez onto the Target store walkway where he lost sight of Suspect Gomez. Deputy Alatorre then heard four gunshots. Deputy Alatorre said he did not know who fired the shots initially. Deputy Alatorre told IAB investigators he then heard one gun shot and saw Suspect Gomez go out of view between two parked vehicles.

Deputy Alatorre said when Sergeant Fernandez arrived on scene they immediately formulated a tactical plan of approach. Deputy Alatorre said he was assigned the shield and approached Suspect Gomez from the west. Deputy Alatorre told IAB investigators he saw the firearm underneath Suspect Gomez's body next to his right hand. He and Sergeant Fernandez turned Suspect Gomez onto his stomach and handcuffed him.

Deputy Alatorre stated paramedics arrived shortly after the firearm Suspect Gomez had in his possession was rendered safe.

DEPUTY DENNIS POGODAYEV

Homicide Interview

On October 7, 2016, **Deputy Dennis Pogodayev, #**[redacted] was interviewed by Homicide Detectives Chaffey Shepherd and Jonas Shipe. The interview was audio recorded and transcribed. The following is a brief summary of the interview:

On the day of the incident Deputy Pogodayev was working 43K1, in the city of Norwalk. Deputy Pogodayev stated when he arrived at the scene, he saw Suspect Gomez walking west bound in the parking lot. He immediately grabbed an AR15 from the trunk of his patrol car, walked westbound, and attempted to detain Suspect Gomez. Deputy Pogodayev then returned to his vehicle and drove onto Firestone Boulevard. He retrieved the stun bag from his vehicle and followed the deputies, on foot, to the Target store, along the south sidewalk.

Deputy Pogodayev said he heard four shots fired and saw Suspect Gomez duck and run south between several parked vehicles. Deputy Pogodayev walked toward Suspect Gomez and took cover against a parked vehicle. Deputy Pogodayev no longer saw Suspect Gomez, and assumed he hid between parked vehicles.

IAB Interview

On December 28, 2016, **Deputy Dennis Pogodayev, #**[redacted] was interviewed by IAB Sergeants Carmen Arballo and James Jordan. The interview was audio recorded and transcribed. The following is a summary of the interview:

Deputy Pogodayev stated he received a call of a male adult (Suspect Gomez) pointing a gun at vehicles at the 605 freeway off-ramp. He attempted to meet assisting units at the McKenna parking lot but heard over L-Tac radio traffic that Aero was over head and saw the Suspect Gomez at the location. Deputy Pogodayev responded to the Target parking lot, in tandem, with assisting units.

When Deputy Pogodayev arrived, he saw deputies walking toward Suspect Gomez. He did not see Suspect Gomez until he parked his marked patrol vehicle. Deputy Pogodayev exited his vehicle and retrieved an automatic rifle (AR15) from the trunk of his vehicle due to the nature of the call. Deputy Pogogayev said he followed deputies and Suspect Gomez on foot toward Firestone Boulevard. Deputy Pogodayev decided to return to his vehicle and drove out of the parking lot. He stopped his patrol vehicle on Firestone Boulevard and retrieved a stun bag rifle. Deputy Pogodayev saw Suspect Gomez with a black handgun in his right hand.

When Suspect Gomez reached the sidewalk, south of the Target store, he saw Deputy Pantoja and Deputy Alatorre stop at a stucco pillar. Deputy Pogodayev walked toward the Target store and onto the Target building when he heard four gun shots. Deputy Pogogayev said he did not see who fired the rounds when he looked up and saw Deputy Pantoja and Deputy Alatorre with their guns pointing in Suspect Gomez' direction. Deputy Pogodayev told IAB investigators he swung the stun bag across his shoulder and drew his duty weapon from his holster. He said he and Deputy Weinreb took cover behind a parked car, north of where Suspect Gomez was last seen.

Deputy Pogodayev said he maintained his position until Sergeant Fernandez arrived on scene. Deputy Pogodayev said he was the lead deputy as he maintained cover when they approached. Deputy Pogodayev remained at the sergeant's vehicle while Deputy Alatorre, Deputy Weinreb and Sergeant Fernandez approached Suspect Gomez from the west side. Minutes later, Deputy Pogodayev said the paramedics responded to the scene.

DEPUTY ISRAEL BECERRA

Homicide Interview

On October 7, 2016, **Deputy Israel Becerra, #**[redacted], was interviewed by Homicide Detectives Chaffey Shepherd and Jonas Shipe. The interview was audio recorded and transcribed. The following is a brief summary of the interview:

On the day of the incident Deputy Becerra was working 43T1, in the city of Norwalk. When he arrived on scene he saw Suspect Gomez walking west bound in the parking lot with his hands in his waist band. Deputy Becerra remained in his patrol vehicle and drove west and exited the parking lot.

Deputy Becerra said Suspect Gomez pointed a gun to his head as he walked to the north east corner of the Target building. Deputy Becerra was on Firestone Boulevard, facing

west, when his view was obstructed by a big rig truck. Simultaneously, he heard four shots fired from where he last saw Suspect Gomez. Deputy Becerra completed a U-turn, drove east on Firestone Boulevard and reentered the Target parking lot. He did not see who fired the gun shots.

Deputy Becerra said Suspect Gomez ran south along the side walk of the Target building, and hid between two vehicles. Deputy Becerra decided to cut-off Suspect Gomez's path of travel and parked his patrol vehicle, approximately thirty feet, east of the Target entrance.

Deputy Becerra said Suspect Gomez crouched between two vehicles as he placed the gun to his head. Deputy Becerra said he heard two gunshots and Suspect Gomez fell to the ground and he saw a pool of blood near Suspect Gomez's head. Deputy Becerra told Homicide detectives he maintained his position and monitored Suspect Gomez until Sergeant Fernandez arrived on scene.

IAB Interview

On December 1, 2016, **Deputy Israel Becerra, #**[redacted] was interviewed by IAB Sergeants Carmen Arballo and James Jordan. The interview was audio recorded and transcribed. The following is a summary of the interview:

Deputy Becerra responded to the McKenna auto dealership and met with Deputy Weinreb and assisting deputies. Simultaneously, Aero advised they were above the Target parking lot and spotted Suspect Gomez. Deputy Becerra said he and the other units responded, in tandem, to the Target parking lot. Deputy Becerra saw two marked patrol vehicles enter the parking lot and travel eastbound toward Suspect Gomez. Deputy Becerra told IAB investigators he stopped his patrol vehicle south of the parking lot entrance.

IAB Note: **The entrance to the Target parking lot is centered between Starbucks and the Target store. The businesses are approximately 175 yards apart. Deputy Becerra stopped his vehicle in the center of the parking lot.**

Suspect Gomez walked westbound toward the Target store. Deputy Becerra heard deputies order Suspect Gomez to stop. Suddenly, Suspect Gomez pulled a gun from his right front pocket and aimed it at his (Suspect Gomez) head. Suspect Gomez crossed over a small island, and walked northbound onto Firestone Boulevard.

IAB Note: **The driveway entrance and exit to the Target parking lot is divided by a curbed island which is approximately thirty yards in length.**

Deputy Becerra drove northbound, followed Suspect Gomez' path of travel, and drove westbound onto Firestone Boulevard. He said Suspect Gomez was approximately twenty

feet in front of him, walking westbound, and pointed a gun to his (Suspect Gomez) head. Suspect Gomez walked southbound on Firestone Boulevard, crossed the center median and proceeded through a corridor located at the northeast corner of the Target store.

Deputy Becerra believed Suspect Gomez would enter the Target store and as he drove back through the Target parking lot entrance. While he drove eastbound on Firestone Boulevard Deputy Becerra heard four gunshots. Suspect Gomez walked southbound, on Firestone Boulevard, with deputies a short distance behind Suspect Gomez. Deputy Becerra told IAB investigators Suspect Gomez behaved erratically and acted like he was under the influence of a narcotic. Deputy Becerra feared Suspect Gomez would enter the Target store. Deputy Becerra relocated his position and parked his marked patrol vehicle several yards from the Target store entrance.

Suspect Gomez walked between two vehicles, and hid from deputies. Deputy Becerra saw Suspect Gomez point a gun to his head, heard two gun shots and Suspect Gomez fell to the ground. Suspect Gomez fell into a seated position and bled from his head. Deputy Becerra said he saw Suspect Gomez moving his head up and down as if attempting to locate the deputy's position. Deputy Becerra remained at his vehicle, used the driver's door panel as concealment, and maintained a visual on Suspect Gomez.

DEPUTY MICAH WEINREB

Homicide Interview

On October 7, 2016, **Deputy Micah Weinreb, #[redacted]**, was interviewed by Homicide Detectives Chaffey Shepherd and Jonas Shipe. The interview was audio recorded and transcribed. The following is a summary of the interview:

On the day of the incident Deputy Weinreb was working unit 43K3, in the city of Norwalk. Deputy Weinreb was assigned to handle the call and immediately requested Aero through dispatch 13. Deputy Weinreb requested assisting units to meet at the McKenna dealership parking lot.

Deputy Weinreb said within minutes, Aero was overhead and spotted Suspect Gomez in the Target parking lot. Deputy Weinreb and assisting units immediately responded to the scene and saw Suspect Gomez at the east end of the parking lot. Suspect Gomez appeared to be under the influence as he waived his hands and pointed in the air. Deputy Weinreb attempted to contact Suspect Gomez as he approached him on foot.

Deputy Weinreb said Suspect Gomez walked briskly westbound toward Firestone Boulevard. When Suspect Gomez walked on Firestone Boulevard, Deputy Weinreb saw Suspect Gomez point a black handgun to his head. Deputy Weinreb told Homicide investigators Aero had activated the patch as he followed Suspect Gomez on foot. Suspect Gomez pointed the gun to his head several times when he approached the center median on Firestone Boulevard.

Suspect Gomez walked southbound toward the Target store. Deputy Weinreb crossed the eastbound lanes and continued to follow Suspect Gomez. Deputy Weinreb told Homicide investigators he heard an unknown number of gunshots as he approached the Target parking lot. He saw Deputy Pantoja standing behind two stucco pillars but did not know if he (Deputy Pantoja) had fired his weapon. Deputy Weinreb said he took a position of cover behind the two pillars and requested Sergeant Fernandez to the scene.

IAB Interview

On December 1, 2016, **Deputy Micah Weinreb, #[redacted]** was interviewed by IAB Sergeants Carmen Arballo and James Jordan. The interview was audio recorded and transcribed. The following is a summary of the interview:

Deputy Weinreb stated while working the city of Norwalk, he was dispatched to the location regarding a man (Suspect Gomez) with a gun. Deputy Weinreb was assigned to handle the call and requested units to L-Tac. Deputy Weinreb requested assisting units to meet at the McKenna parking lot. Deputy Weinreb told IAB investigators due to the nature of the call he wanted to formulate a plan prior to arriving on scene.

When the units arrived, Aero was overhead and spotted Suspect Gomez in front of the Starbucks. Deputy Weinreb arrived and immediately saw Suspect Gomez. He exited his patrol vehicle and stood approximately ten to fifteen feet away from Suspect Gomez. Deputy Weinreb ordered Suspect Gomez to stop and show his hands. Suspect Gomez did not comply, waived his hand up in the air, and walked in circles.

Deputy Weinreb saw Suspect Gomez with a gun in his hand as he walked westbound in the Target parking lot. Deputy Weinreb followed Suspect Gomez and continued to order him to stop. When asked by IAB investigators if he was in a foot pursuit of Suspect Gomez, Deputy Weinreb stated he was not. He articulated he followed Suspect Gomez because he (Suspect Gomez) had a gun in his hand and he wanted to maintain a visual of Suspect Gomez actions. Deputy Weinreb stated Aero took over all radio traffic on the main frequency and he did not broadcast his actions.

Deputy Weinreb saw Suspect Gomez place the gun to his (Suspect Gomez) head when he arrived at the center median on Firestone Boulevard. Deputy Weinreb remembered observing Suspect Gomez walk between two pillars at the north east corner of the Target store, and Deputy Pantoja behind him (Suspect Gomez). Deputy Weinreb stated, at the same time, he saw two to three rounds expel from Deputy Pantoja's gun, but did not hear shots fired.

Deputy Weinreb said he no longer had a visual on Suspect Gomez. Deputy Weinreb took cover, along with Deputy Pantoja and Deputy Alatorre, behind a parked vehicle. Deputy Weinreb requested Sergeant Fernandez to the scene.

When Sergeant Fernandez arrived at the scene, Deputy Weinreb said they formulated a plan to approach Suspect Gomez. He said he used the engine block of Sergeant

Fernandez's vehicle to conceal himself as they approached Suspect Gomez. Deputy Weinreb did not see Suspect Gomez on the ground but heard, over the radio, that Suspect Gomez had a wound to his head and was still moving. Deputy Weinreb said he saw the muzzle of a gun underneath Suspect Gomez' body, and immediately stopped the approach team. He recommended they approach from the west side of where Suspect Gomez laid.

Deputy Weinreb had his weapon drawn as he walked up on Suspect Gomez and immediately noticed a gunshot wound to Suspect Gomez' head. He told IAB investigators he removed the hand gun from underneath Suspect Gomez' right arm area and placed it in the bed of a parked pickup truck prior to paramedics rendering first aid to Suspect Gomez **[Exhibit D, photos]**.

SERGEANT ANTHONY FERNANDEZ

On August 8, 2016, **Sergeant Anthony Fernandez, #**[redacted] was interviewed by IAB Sergeants Carmen Arballo and Henry Ortega, #[redacted] The interview was audio recorded and transcribed. The following is a summary of that interview:

Sergeant Fernandez stated he was assigned to Norwalk Station for approximately three years on the day of the incident. He told IAB investigators he made it common practice and briefed patrol personnel on effective arrests/detentions and high risk situations. During his IAB interview Sergeant Fernandez stated he was familiar with the deputies involved in this incident and they routinely attended his briefings.

Sergeant Fernandez stated he was approximately six miles away from the scene when he heard the call. He immediately advised dispatch he was responding code three from the east.

> **IAB Note: A code 3 response consists of operating an authorized emergency vehicle with red light and sounding siren, as may be reasonably necessary, and operating that vehicle with due regard for the safety of all persons using the highway.**

Sergeant Fernandez told IAB investigators it took him approximately eight to nine minutes to arrive on scene. He stated due to the time of day there was excessive traffic and construction along the route. Sergeant Fernandez said he had a difficult time activating his lights and siren and decided to stop his vehicle. He placed the vehicle in park and reset the lights and siren in an effort to correct the problem. Sergeant Fernandez started the vehicle and responded to the scene.

Sergeant Fernandez said he heard through the radio a deputy was involved in a shooting at the scene. He said Aero communicated where Suspect Gomez was last seen after the shooting. Sergeant Fernandez arrived on scene and Deputy Pantoja informed him he had fired his weapon.

At this point, Sergeant Fernandez realized the situation was static. He formulated a plan of approach. Sergeant Fernandez put together an approach/contact team and assigned both lethal and less lethal weapons. Aero announced several times for Suspect Gomez to surrender; however, Suspect Gomez did not comply. Sergeant Fernandez and deputies utilized Sergeant Fernandez' vehicle to approach Suspect Gomez. Refer to **[Exhibit D, video Target entrance]**.

Sergeant Fernandez and deputies approached Suspect Gomez from the west side, on foot. Because Suspect Gomez was last seen moving his right hand, Sergeant Fernandez ordered the deputies to handcuff Suspect Gomez until they rendered the gun safe. Sergeant Fernandez said paramedics arrived and immediately rendered aid to Suspect Gomez.

At the conclusion of his interview, Sergeant Fernandez told IAB investigators Aero deputies did a phenomenal job with radio communication. He also believed deputies involved maintained control when they contacted Suspect Gomez. He said deputies worked methodically and assessed the mental state of Suspect Gomez when they initially contacted him in front of Starbucks and controlled the situation from beginning to end.

LIEUTENANT MICHAEL INGE

On August 10, 2017, **Lieutenant Michael Inge, #[redacted]**, was interviewed by IAB Sergeants Carmen Arballo and Henry Ortega. The interview was audio recorded and transcribed. The following is a summary of that interview:

Lieutenant Inge was assigned as the Service Area Lieutenant (SAL) for the city of Norwalk on the day of the incident. He was attending a community event a short distance away from the Target parking lot with Detective John Gutierrez, #[redacted].

IAB Note: On the day of the incident, Sergeant Gutierrez was a deputy assigned to Norwalk Station, Detective Bureau. On October 16, 2016, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and assigned to South Los Angeles Sheriff's Station, South Patrol Division.

Lieutenant Inge said he monitored radio traffic on a hand held radio and heard the call of a man (Suspect Gomez) with a gun in the Target parking lot. He and Detective Gutierrez started responding to the call when he heard "9-9-8" broadcast over the radio. Lieutenant Inge said he and Detective Gutierrez arrived at the scene within minutes. Lieutenant Inge immediately contacted deputies and they informed him of the situation and where Suspect Gomez was last seen. Lieutenant Inge said the situation was somewhat dynamic and wanted to slow things down. He was informed Target locked their doors and prevented customers from exiting.

Lieutenant Inge said after Sergeant Fernandez arrived they discussed a plan of approach. Deputy's approached Suspect Gomez from the west and utilized the Target building as a back drop if Suspect Gomez was to reengage and shoot at the deputies. Lieutenant Inge

said deputies approached methodically and maintained control as they closed in on Suspect Gomez.

SERGEANT JOHN GUTIERREZ

On August 10, 2017, **Sergeant John Gutierrez**, was interviewed by IAB Sergeants Carmen Arballo and Henry Ortega. The interview was audio recorded and transcribed. The following is a summary of that interview:

Sergeant Gutierrez attended a community event with Lieutenant Inge on the day of the incident. He said he heard the call of a man (Suspect Gomez) standing at the 605 freeway off ramp and pointed a gun at vehicles exiting the freeway. Sergeant Gutierrez carried a handheld radio and monitored the situation. When he heard Suspect Gomez was walking through the Target parking lot with a gun. Sergeant Gutierrez said he and Lieutenant Inge responded to the scene and he heard "998" over the radio before they arrived.

When Sergeant Gutierrez arrived at the scene, he parked his vehicle on Firestone Boulevard and walked to the north east corner of the Target building. He said he immediately kneeled on the ground, looked south underneath several parked cars, and searched for Suspect Gomez. Sergeant Gutierrez told IAB investigators he saw Suspect Gomez in a seated position and did not see a gun. Sergeant Gutierrez maintained his position and monitored the scene.

DEPUTY IGNACIO GRACIA

On August 16, 2017, **Deputy Ignacio Gracia, #[redacted]** was interviewed by IAB Sergeants Carmen Arballo and James Jordan. The interview was audio recorded and transcribed. The following is a summary of that interview:

Deputy Gracia was assigned to Aero Bureau as the aircraft operator on the day of the incident. He heard a call, through dispatch 13, regarding a man (Suspect Gomez) with a gun at the location. Deputy Gracia advised responding units he was approximately three to four minutes away. When he arrived overhead, Deputy Gracia spotted Suspect Gomez in the parking lot near the Starbucks. He said his partner, Deputy Roland Abbott, #[redacted], coordinated units and started to set up a containment.

Deputy Gracia said he maintained the aircraft approximately three hundred feet above the scene. At times, Deputy Gracia could not see Suspect Gomez due to several electrical stanchions. Deputy Gracia maneuvered the aircraft to avoid colliding into the stanchions.

IAB Note: **A stanchion is a sturdy upright fixture that provides support for high-voltage overhead lines. Stanchion lights are typically spaced fifty feet along sidewalks approximately 180 feet high.**

Deputy Gracia saw Suspect Gomez run onto Firestone Boulevard, next to a center median, and point a gun to his (Suspect Gomez) head. Next, Deputy Gracia saw Suspect Gomez run to the north east corner of the Target store; however, he (Deputy Gracia) was unable to see if deputies followed behind Suspect Gomez. Deputy Gracia said it was at this point he saw Suspect Gomez take a position of cover between several vehicles parked on the south side of the Target store.

Deputy Gracia said when Suspect Gomez stopped between two vehicles he saw him (Suspect Gomez) point a gun to his head and immediately drop to the ground. He said ground units maintained their positions until 40 Sam (Sergeant Fernandez) arrived on scene.

DEPUTY ROLAND ABBOTT

On August 16, 2017, **Deputy Abbott,** was interviewed by IAB Sergeants Carmen Arballo and James Jordan. The interview was audio recorded and transcribed. The following is a summary of that interview:

On the day of the incident, Deputy Abbott was assigned to Aero Bureau as an observer in the aircraft. He said a short time later, he was overhead in the area and immediately spotted Suspect Gomez. Deputy Abbott communicated with ground units and coordinated their positions. He saw Suspect Gomez look up at him and point upward simulating firing a gun with his hand. Suspect Gomez walked away from Starbucks and headed west bound toward Firestone Boulevard.

Deputy Abbott said Suspect Gomez walked to the center median and pointed a gun to his head. Suspect Gomez ran to the south curb line sidewalk, next to the Target store, as he made frantic movements with the gun. Deputy Abbott stated Suspect Gomez wedged himself between two vehicles, at around the same time, he heard over the radio a deputy had fired his weapon (998). Simultaneously, Suspect Gomez fell to the ground and Deputy Abbott saw blood emitting from his (Suspect Gomez) head.

Deputy Abbott told IAB investigators he continued to monitor Suspect Gomez and relayed the information to ground units until a field sergeant (Sergeant Fernandez) arrived at the scene.

NON-EMPLOYEE STATEMENTS:

WITNESS [redacted]

On October 7, 2016, [redacted] was interviewed by Homicide detectives Shepperd and Shipe. The interview was summarized in the Homicide supplemental reports **[Exhibit A]**. The interview was audio recorded and transcribed. The following is a brief summary of the interview:

Witness [redacted] stated as he was eastbound on Firestone Boulevard heading toward the Target, he noticed a Sheriff's helicopter hovering above the Target parking lot. He drove into the lot and parked his vehicle near the center driveway, on the east end facing north. Once he parked, Witness [redacted] noticed deputies chasing a male adult (Suspect Gomez) through the parking lot and onto Firestone Boulevard.

Witness [redacted] told investigators he immediately began to film the incident with his cell phone. He saw Suspect Gomez running through the parking lot with a gun pointed to his (Suspect Gomez) head. Witness [redacted] said when Suspect Gomez and the deputies reached the Target, he heard four shots fired by deputies. He saw Suspect Gomez duck and dodge between parked vehicles. Then, Witness [redacted] heard a single gun-shot and saw Suspect Gomez fall to the ground. Witness [redacted] stated he believed Suspect Gomez shot himself in the head. Witness [redacted] told investigators he feared for his life and thought Suspect Gomez would take hostages if he entered Target.

WITNESS [redacted]

On October 7, 2016, [redacted] was interviewed by Homicide investigators Shepperd and Shipe. The interview was audio recorded and transcribed. The interview was summarized in the Homicide supplemental reports **[Exhibit A]**. The following is a brief summary of the interview:

Witness [redacted] stated he was inside the Starbucks when he noticed a male Hispanic adult (Suspect Gomez), with a key attached to a red lanyard, walking in the parking lot, attempting to open car doors. Witness [redacted] immediately called 911.

Witness [redacted] said an unidentified patron approached and spoke to Suspect Gomez for a brief moment. Suspect Gomez handed the red lanyard to the patron and walked away. Witness [redacted] stated the Sheriff's helicopter was immediately above the location. At the same time, Witness [redacted] saw deputies approach Suspect Gomez as he (Suspect Gomez) walked away briskly. He saw a deputy pointing a gun at Suspect Gomez, but did not see a gun in Suspect Gomez' hand.

Witness [redacted] remained on the east end of the parking lot, near the Starbucks and did not see Suspect Gomez run into oncoming traffic on Firestone Boulevard.

IAB Note: **Witness [redacted] was standing at the east end of the Target parking lot and witnessed the incident at approximately 175 yards away.**

Witness [redacted] told IAB investigators Suspect Gomez pointed a gun to his head as he looked toward the deputies. Witness [redacted] looked away when he heard the sound of two gun shots. After the two gunshots, he saw Suspect Gomez fall to the ground. Witness [redacted] said he heard the deputies yelling at Suspect Gomez to drop the gun as they tried to stop him.

WITNESS [redacted]

On October 7, 2016, [redacted] was interviewed by Homicide detectives Shepperd and Shipe. The interview was audio recorded and transcribed. The interview was summarized in the Homicide supplemental reports **[Exhibit A]**. The following is a brief summary of the interview:

Witness [redacted] stated she was inside the Target store shopping, and shortly after, exited the store. When she walked outside, she heard a helicopter flying overhead. Witness [redacted] said she looked to her left (north) and saw deputies pointing their guns in her direction. She heard four gunshots as she stood outside the Target store entrance. Witness [redacted] told investigators her shopping cart was struck and she immediately ran back into the store to warn other customers of the shooting.

IAB Note: **IAB investigators sent a certified letter to Witness [redacted] and attempted to contact her via telephone. Witness [redacted] did not contact investigators and the certified letter was returned, "return to sender" [Miscellaneous Documents].**

Witness [redacted] stated she did not witness Suspect Gomez shoot himself nor did she witness the deputy involved shooting.

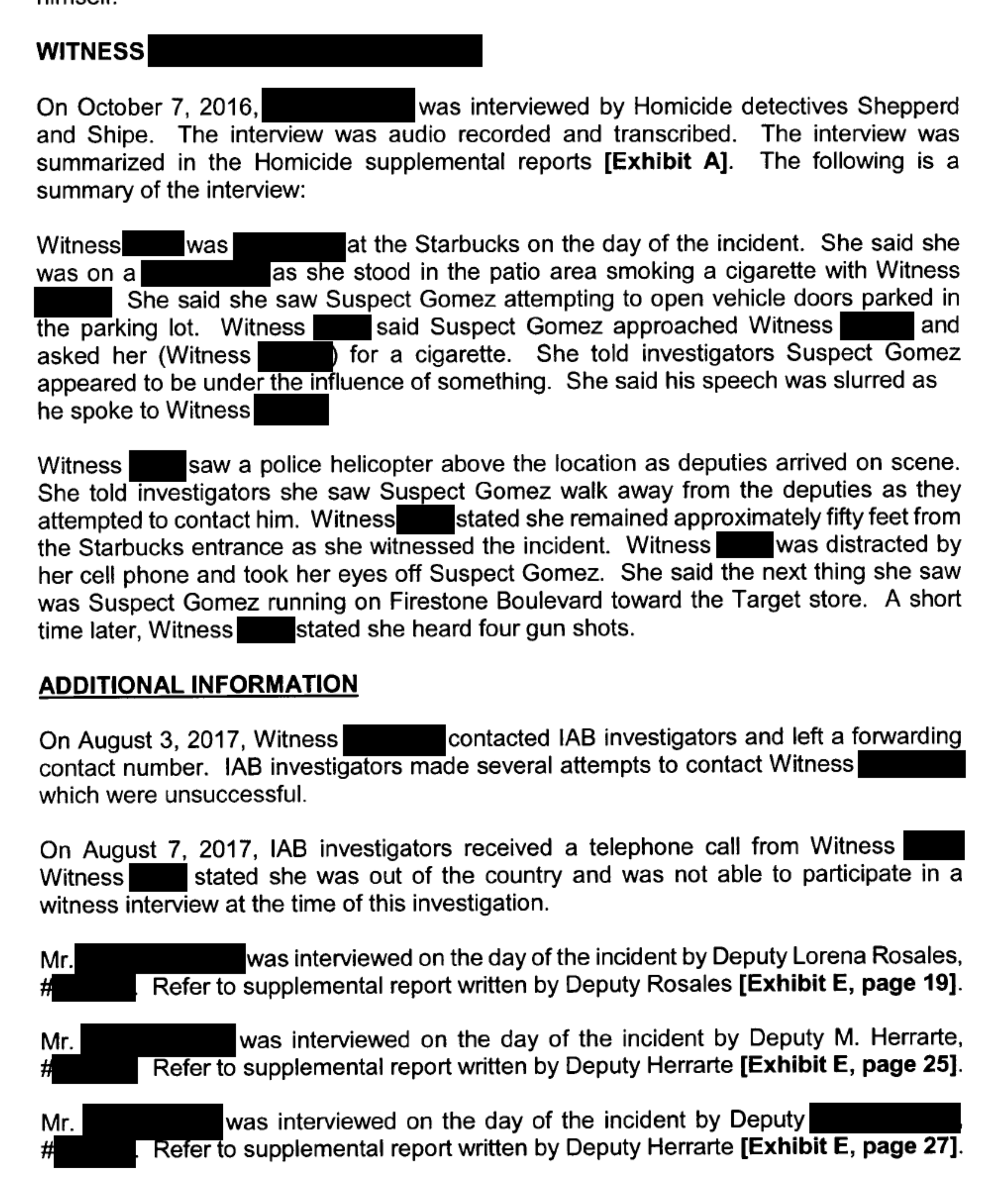
WINTESS [redacted]

On October 7, 2016, [redacted] was interviewed by Homicide detectives Shepperd and Shipe. The interview was audio recorded and transcribed. The interview was summarized in the Homicide supplemental reports **[Exhibit A]**. The following is a brief summary of the interview:

Witness [redacted] was [redacted] at the Starbucks on the day of the incident. She said she was on a [redacted] standing in the patio area, smoking a cigarette. Witness [redacted] saw Suspect Gomez attempting to open parked vehicle doors with a key attached to a red lanyard. She told investigators she thought Suspect Gomez found the key on the ground, but it may have belonged to a patron inside Starbucks.

Witness [redacted] stated an unidentified patron exited the Starbucks, approached Suspect Gomez and asked him for the key. She saw Suspect Gomez hand the patron the key. Witness [redacted] said Suspect Gomez approached her and asked her for a cigarette, to which she gave him one.

At this time, Witness [redacted] saw numerous deputies arrive at the scene, and exit their patrol cars. She said Suspect Gomez speed walked away from the deputies, put his hand in his right pocket and pull out a gun. Witness [redacted] told IAB investigators deputies yelled at Suspect Gomez as he walked across the parking lot, through the bushes and arrived near the Target building. Witness [redacted] said she heard four gunshots but was



unable to provide investigators with details. She did not see Suspect Gomez shoot himself.

WITNESS [redacted]

On October 7, 2016, [redacted] was interviewed by Homicide detectives Shepperd and Shipe. The interview was audio recorded and transcribed. The interview was summarized in the Homicide supplemental reports **[Exhibit A]**. The following is a summary of the interview:

Witness [redacted] was [redacted] at the Starbucks on the day of the incident. She said she was on a [redacted] as she stood in the patio area smoking a cigarette with Witness [redacted] She said she saw Suspect Gomez attempting to open vehicle doors parked in the parking lot. Witness [redacted] said Suspect Gomez approached Witness [redacted] and asked her (Witness [redacted]) for a cigarette. She told investigators Suspect Gomez appeared to be under the influence of something. She said his speech was slurred as he spoke to Witness [redacted]

Witness [redacted] saw a police helicopter above the location as deputies arrived on scene. She told investigators she saw Suspect Gomez walk away from the deputies as they attempted to contact him. Witness [redacted] stated she remained approximately fifty feet from the Starbucks entrance as she witnessed the incident. Witness [redacted] was distracted by her cell phone and took her eyes off Suspect Gomez. She said the next thing she saw was Suspect Gomez running on Firestone Boulevard toward the Target store. A short time later, Witness [redacted] stated she heard four gun shots.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

On August 3, 2017, Witness [redacted] contacted IAB investigators and left a forwarding contact number. IAB investigators made several attempts to contact Witness [redacted] which were unsuccessful.

On August 7, 2017, IAB investigators received a telephone call from Witness [redacted] Witness [redacted] stated she was out of the country and was not able to participate in a witness interview at the time of this investigation.

Mr. [redacted] was interviewed on the day of the incident by Deputy Lorena Rosales, #[redacted]. Refer to supplemental report written by Deputy Rosales **[Exhibit E, page 19]**.

Mr. [redacted] was interviewed on the day of the incident by Deputy M. Herrarte, #[redacted] Refer to supplemental report written by Deputy Herrarte **[Exhibit E, page 25]**.

Mr. [redacted] was interviewed on the day of the incident by Deputy [redacted], #[redacted]. Refer to supplemental report written by Deputy Herrarte **[Exhibit E, page 27]**.

IAB investigators made several attempts to schedule an interview with Witness [redacted] however, he did not return any calls. IAB Investigators sent certified letters to Witness [redacted] Witness [redacted], Mr. [redacted], Mr. [redacted], and Mr. [redacted] **[Miscellaneous Documents]**.

There were no responses from Witness [redacted], Witness [redacted], and Mr. [redacted].